## SN-US015114A

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Tsutomu Muraoka : Patent Art Unit: 3682

Serial No.: New - Filed Herewith : Examiner David M. Fenstermacher

(Con. of 09/954,435) :

Filed: New

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application and prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend this application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the <u>Listing of Claims</u>, which begins on page 3 of this paper. Claims 1, 2, 15-18, 21, 22, 24-26, 28-33 and 37-39 are pending, with claims 1 and 29 being the only independent claims.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.